

**MINUTES FOR THE March 12, 2020 BOARD MEETING OF THE SUPERVISORS FOR THE CLAY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, MOORHEAD, MN.**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Hildebrandt at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:   Members present:       Joel Hildebrandt, Chairperson  
Paul Krabbenhoft, Vice Chairperson  
Carol Schoff, Treasurer  
Randy Schellack, Secretary  
Richard Menholt, Reporter

Others present:       Kevin Kassenborg, District Manager  
Craig Halverson, District Technician/CFO  
Lynn Foss, Water Resource Management Technician  
Amanda Lewis, District Coordinator  
Gabe Foltz, District Technician/ CAI  
Tony Nelson, PF Biologist  
Jim Haney, County Commissioner

Absent:               Jenny Mongeau, County Commissioner

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVE AGENDA:** **M/S/P, Schellack/Schoff, to approve the March agenda.** Motion carried.

Meeting and mileage forms completed by Supervisors.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** A draft copy of the February 13, 2020, meeting minutes was emailed to the Supervisors prior to the March meeting. **M/S/P, Schoff/Menholt, to approve the February 13, 2020 minutes.** Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Mandy discussed the dashboard tool from BWSR and how to read the reports from QuickBooks. Financial reports will continue to be given out monthly at the Board Meetings and a report with our time will be given out quarterly. No report.

**2019 BUDGET PROPOSAL:** Kevin discussed the 2020 budget.  
**M/S/P, Schellack/Menholt, to approve the 2020 budget.** Motion carried.

**APPROVE STATE COST-SHARE CONTRACTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE:**

CS 19-15 M. Perkins for a Field Windbreak in the amount of \$4,880.00  
CS 19-14 H. Pender for a Field Windbreak in the amount of \$462.00  
CS 19-13 B. Lien for a Field Windbreak in the amount of \$913.00

**M/S/P, Krabbenhoft/Menholt, to approve the above-mentioned requests for assistance.** Motion carried.

**APPROVE CANCELLATION OF STATE COST SHARE CONTRACT:**

CS 19-00 G. Wyland for a Streambank Restoration Project in the amount of \$7,698.00.

Kevin described the project and issues that have risen with the project over the past year. Would like to cancel until there is a new plan in place for the project.

**M/S/P, Schoff/Menholt, to approve the above-mentioned State Cost-Share contracts for Cancellation.** Motion carried.

**APPROVE VOUCHERS PAID:** The list of vouchers from Elect #2010– 2015 and QuickBooks checks # 20452-20475 was reviewed and credit given to have been paid by due date. **M/S/P, Schoff/Krabbenhoft, to approve the vouchers that had been paid as listed.** Motion carried.

**2020 CLEAN WATER FUND PROJECT:** Kevin stated that there was a meeting held at the Clay SWCD office with Eric Jones, Houston Engineering; Matt Jacobson, Clay County Planning and Zoning Director; Bruce Albright and Kathy Fenger, BRRWD; and SWCD Staff to discuss the scope of work and a workplan for the grant. There was a discussion held on engineering approval through NRCS.

**COUNTY BOARD ANNUAL UPDATE:** Kevin stated that he gave an update on Clay SWCD's programs and projects for 2020 at the County Board Meeting held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**BUFFER PROGRAM:** Gabe stated that he is working on getting a post card out to landowners that have not complied with the law. The postcard will give those landowners a final planting date before further action is taken. There was a discussion held on what that final planting date should be and what the steps are for further action. Gabe will check with Bruce from Traverse SWCD to see how they are handling the situation. More to come.

**JOINT NOXIOUS WEED & INVASIVE PLANT GRANT:** Gabe discussed the grant and the extent of the work for the grant as well as the funding.

**CASS CLAY FOOD COMMISSION PESTICIDE USE:** Gabe stated that he was asked to give a brief presentation to the group on our spraying policies and what pesticides we use to spray. He gave the presentation on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

**COVER CROP COST SHARE PROGRAM:** Gabe stated that the Land Management Form has been reviewed by Brett Arne, BWSR. He suggested a change to the payment schedule once that change is done, he will start the program.

**SUSTAINABLE FARMING ASSOCIATION:** Gabe stated that he was contacted to attend a "Café Chat" that will be held in Barnesville on March 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss the State Cost Share Cover Crop program. There will be Clay County landowners that are currently working with cover crops giving updates on their experiences at the meeting.

**CCATO MEETING & AG INSPECTOR'S WORKSHOP**

The meeting will be held March 16<sup>th</sup> at the Dilworth Community Center. Kevin, Craig, and Gabe plan to attend.

**BRR 1W1P:** Kevin stated that he, Bruce Albright and Kathy Fenger, BRRWD, gave a presentation to the County Board on March 10<sup>th</sup>. He has attended a couple conference calls where they discussed the comments from the draft plan. There was a discussion held on the review and comment process as well as the final steps for the plan.

**WR 1W1P:** Kevin stated that there was Webex meeting held on March 4<sup>th</sup> with no meetings since. Scott Kronholm, HEI, is working on the PTMApp process. There was a discussion held on different practices for the planning regions. The plan is about half-way through the process.

**NEW PICKUP PRICING:** Craig stated that he received a few bids back from a couple different dealerships. The best trade in value came from Marthaller Dealership in Glenwood MN.

**M/S/P, Krabbenhoft/Schellack, to approve the Marthaller Bid for a new pickup.** Motion carried.

**2020 CONSERVATION CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS:** Mandy stated that she was contacted by a previous attendee's parent to discuss the potential of working with a different camp. There was a discussion held on camps that are available and whether to continue the scholarship for hunter's safety. Tony will check into available camps in the area for hunter's safety. More to come.

**2020 OUTSTANDING CONSERVATIONIST:** Kevin stated that the 2020 nominee will come from Supervisor Schellack's area this year.

**SUPERVISOR ELECTION YEAR:** Kevin stated that Carol, Joel, and Richard will be up for election. Anyone interested in running will need to file at the Courthouse, May 19<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PLANNING:** There was a discussion held on a potential planning committee for the event as well as dates, times, and different areas that would work for the event.

**WILKIN SWCD'S DIRT AND DOUGHNUTS SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP:** Tony and Kevin attended the workshop on February 26<sup>th</sup>. There were 50 producers in attendance with an interactive 2-hour session discussing Cover Crop programs and different ideas on things that work and don't work. The landowners stated that when it comes to Cover Crop programs flexibility is key.

**CREP UPDATE:**

Tony stated that there will be a batching period for March and April. The Hess easement has been completed and paid the end of February. He will work on getting invoices sent in for reimbursement. All 4 CREP Easements he has been working on are complete and pending construction/restoration.

**PHEASANT FEST:** Tony and Paul attended the event on February 14-16 in Minneapolis. The Olson sisters participated in the Farmer panel discussion as well as the Women in Conservation discussion. Jenny Mongeau, County Commissioner, and Sara Strommen, MN DNR Commissioner, discussed the potential for public land and their uses.

**BWSR INFORMATION MEETING:** Kevin stated that the meeting was held to get everyone thinking about the 1W1P funding and the issues that will arise with those funds as well as how to get the projects completed that are prioritized in the plan.

**RRWMBFDR WORK GROUP CONFERENCE** – Paul, Randy, Lynn, & Kevin attended the 2-day conference and gave an update on what Watershed Districts are doing in the Red River Basin.

**TRAVERSE SWCD'S SOIL AND SANDWICHES SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP:** Gabe and Craig attended the event held on March 12<sup>th</sup>. There was a farmer's panel to discuss Cover Crop programs and different ideas on things that work and don't work when it comes to cover crops. Wilkin SWCD and Traverse SWCD discussed programs and grants that they received for Cover Crops.

**AREA 1 SUPERVISORS MEETING:** The meeting is scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup> at the UMC Crookston. We will watch to see what happens with the COVID-19 virus and make changes if need be.

**SWCD MANAGER'S SPRING MEETING:** Kevin stated that the meeting is scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> in Baxter MN. Kevin discussed the meeting's agenda.

**RURAL CITIES AND COUNTY ROUND TABLE MEETING** – Kevin will be attending the meeting March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Law Enforcement Center.

**MASWCD DAY AT THE CAPITOL** – Has been cancelled.

**MACFO CONFERENCE:** Craig stated that he will attend the meeting that is scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> in Alexandria.

**BEGINNING FARMERS WORKSHOP:** Kevin stated that James, FSA, invited us to present at the meeting being held in Barnesville on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Kevin discussed the topics we will discuss at the meeting.

**LADIES AG NIGHT:** Mandy stated that she was invited to give her Rain Barrel Presentation at the Wilkin SWCD's Ladies Ag Night being held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> in Wahpeton, ND. She will participate in the event.

**COUNTY LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INVITATION:** Kevin stated that he was invited to sit on the committee by Matt Jacobson, Clay County Planning & Zoning Director. Discussed the committee and their actions. Kevin stated he committed to sitting on the committee.

**NRCS:** See the Report

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** Jim stated that phase 2 of the jail is complete. Discussed the Juvenile Detention Center as well as the bonding bill for a recycling/transfer station.

**MASWCD:** Paul discussed the legislative session. There was a discussion held on MASWCD dues and members.

**PHEASANTS FOREVER:** Tony stated that CRP application process expired on February 28<sup>th</sup> with 80 applications submitted. They will be ranked and scored; he will wait to hear who was accepted sometime in April. He discussed programs available through the FSA. The Walk-In-Access program has been funded by the state.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** Randy stated that there were 2 gravel mining permits renewed. They denied storage units along County Highway 11 due to zoning.

**CFO:** Craig discussed the agenda for the MACFO conference he will be attending on March 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> in Alexandria.

**TREE PROGRAM:** Craig stated that there are currently 9 plant jobs, 23,312ft of matting sold, and 7,150 trees sold. The trees are set up to be delivered April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**URBAN CONSERVATION:** Mandy stated that she and Craig picked 50 barrels up in Detroit Lakes on February 26<sup>th</sup>. There are roughly 120 barrels currently which will be used for the 2020 season. She will evaluate barrel issues at the end of the 2020 season. The Hawley Pollinator Workshop was cancelled due to poor sign up. She discussed the Lawns to Legumes application and landowners that she has directed to apply for the program. Discussion held on future events and different ideas for those events.

**COUNTY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY:** Gabe and Mandy attended. Mandy stated that the first session was pretty much an introduction session with a focus on our past leaders and what we valued about them. Discussion was held on the agenda for future sessions. Gabe discussed the session.

**LWM/WCA/AIS:** See report

**CAI UPDATE:** Gabe stated he is sending out spray quotes to L&M Road Service as well as other entities. He discussed having the winning bid sign a 2-3-year contract instead of addressing the issue annually. Discussed grants that we were accepted for and different software available for mapping weeds in the county for the grant reporting.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

March 16<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Farming Association Landowner's Panel -Barnesville MN  
March 16<sup>th</sup> – CCATO Meeting & Ag Inspector Workshop – Dilworth MN  
March 17<sup>th</sup> – Area 1 Meeting – UMC Crookston  
March 18<sup>th</sup> – County Leadership Training  
March 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> – SWCD Manager's Meeting- Baxter MN  
March 19<sup>th</sup> – Rural Cities & County Round Table Meeting  
March 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> – MASWCD Day at the Capitol – St. Paul MN  
March 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> – MACFO Conference – Alexandria MN  
March 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> – Pollinator Workshop  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ladies Ag Night – Wahpeton, ND  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Beginning Farmers Workshop – Barnesville MN

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

- NRCS Local Work Group meetings will be scheduled soon
- FSA Messenger – Supervisors requested adding their names to FSA's email list so they can receive information

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** April 9, 2020 @ 4:00PM

**ADJOURN:** Supervisor Hildebrandt called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **M/S/P, Schoff/Schellack, to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.** Motion carried.

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BY: Amanda Lewis  
District Coordinator

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Randy Schellack  
Secretary

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Signature after approved      Date

